

ATTACHMENT D

Good Afternoon Ladies & Gentlemen,

My name is Shawn Murphy, I am a Correctional Officer at Nevada State Prison, and in March I will have five years there.

I'd like to look at N.S.P.'s closure from another perspective if I can, and play the devil's advocate for a minute.

The director seems very insistent in closing N.S.P., so let's pretend for a minute that it actually happens. What are the costs of closing it and what kind of damage will that do?

1. **Let's look at the inmates:** They will all be moved (at very high expense) to other institutions that are already over crowded. They will still have to be fed and clothed, and will still have medical and dental expenses. They will also still have to be housed, and because of the over population problems that already exist; they will be housed probably in dayrooms, gyms, and make-shift warehouses. Sooner or later, they will be filing law suits for unfit and unsafe living conditions. To my knowledge, none of these law suits exist at N.S.P.
2. **Let's discuss the officers:** The higher seniority officers will be assigned to other institutions, and you will still have to pay their salaries, provide their benefits packages, etc. The younger officers with N.D.O.C., assigned to a majority of the institutions will be laid off. According to Director Skolniks' October 2, 2008 estimates, the officers hired after 2004 (in other words every officer hired in the last 4 years) will either face being bumped, relocated or laid off. The number of officers to be laid off is estimated at 200.
3. **So the officers out of work** will now draw unemployment, they will probably cash out their Pers retirement to survive for a while, which in turn will hurt the Pers program. And since there are no jobs to handle 200 out of work officers, most will probably move out of state. They will uproot their families, pull their spouses income out of our communities as well and leave. By the way, these officers laid off, were the least paid from the payroll budget.
4. **Most officers who bought houses** (believing they had any kind of future with N.D.O.C.) will be forced into foreclosure and add a devastating blow to an already existing real-estate market problem. But I won't go into that.
5. **Now N.S.P. is empty** and the lights are off. Millions have been spent to relocate the inmates, the Mattress Factory, the Book Bindery and the Tag Plant. They exist somewhere else, in other buildings that you have to pay for to refurbish, renovate or maybe even build to facilitate those programs. And you have to train more inmates or personnel to run them, and sooner or later those people getting trained will get hurt, and make a few thousand dollars worth of mistakes because they don't know what they're doing yet.

6. **N.S.P. is cold and dark**, and time goes by, maybe a week or two. Before the street gangs start breaking tower windows, ripping down fence lines and tagging the buildings. Possibly setting fire to the Wardens' House at the North end of the prison which I'm told the Historical Society wants as a landmark. Someone eventually gets hurt, climbing up the ladders to the gun towers to break a window or throw something off the top or go up there with some drugs or a case of beer. People get hurt and Fire and Rescue are called out time and time again. So you order the demolition of the gun towers and the removal of miles of fence line and razor wire (because some clown thought he was Rambo and tried to climb the fence). Now every drunk and street gang has access to every building on the property and what's left behind is a mess to clean up just like the race track in South Carson City. **So you guys end up paying for the clean up... (Sorry typo) the tax payers end up paying for the clean up.**
7. **This brings up the point of security.** You guys decide to hire a security company or task the Capitol City Police to patrol N.S.P. The lights come back on so they can see, but there's no gun coverage, so they don't dare go in their alone because N.S.P. is less than 2 miles from one of the most highly populated gang neighborhoods in Carson City. **No matter what you do, state property will be destroyed.**
8. **There was talk about turning N.S.P. into a museum.** If this is not the case, I apologize, we don't know what's happening, there is still no communication between Director Skolnik and the staff that actually work there. But, if this is true, I can't imagine the cost of getting that facility refurbished, repaired and tourist worthy when the Director doesn't seem to want to fix the existing problems that every other institution has had to deal with. The money that was spent on overtime alone would have been enough to fix the existing problems and fully staff the prison.
9. **My point is very simple.** N.S.P. is already paid for and has been fully operational for decades. The cost of running it safely and efficiently **does not come close** to the overwhelming costs and the negative impact it will have if it is shut down. Fix it, staff it, and let it continue to serve the purpose was built for.
10. **Apparently** Director Skolnik hasn't given any thought or consideration to the total cost and collateral damage of this asinine decision. I can't imagine what would motivate a leader to do something like this. I've never had a Commander or Team Leader in the Military or anywhere else deliberately set me up to fail, until now. As the Director of N.D.O.C., Mr. Skolnik should be held accountable for his actions and held to a higher standard, just like we are as Peace Officers.

My name is Shawn Murphy, and I'm proud to be an officer at Nevada State Prison.